It’s definitely a product worth trying since it has some great characteristics for cementing crowns to help you reduce chair time,” reported a California dentist after evaluating Calibra Universal cement for Dental Product Shopper. Fifteen general dentists evaluated the product and shared their opinions with DPS.

Handling and Esthetics

Manufacturer Description: Calibra Universal cement is a 2-component, dual-cure, high-strength, self-adhesive cement that contains fluoride. The material combines esthetic shading with a self-etching adhesive, making it suitable for the permanent cementation of metal, PFM, resin/composite, ceramic and porcelain inlays, onlays, crowns, bridges, and endodontic posts without applying a separate dentin/enamel adhesive bonding agent/system. It has proven flexural, compressive, and bond strength for long-lasting, highly esthetic results and is available in 5 shades: light, medium, translucent, opaque, and bleach.

Evaluator Feedback: When asked what they liked best about Calibra Universal cement, several evaluators mentioned its handling properties. One dentist commented, “Ease of handling and lack of post-op sensitivity [is what I like best],” and added, “The product handled very well and was easy to clean up. Good retention.” A Louisiana evaluator liked that Calibra Universal cement “worked well” and “handled well,” and a New York dentist, who recommended a “curved tip to dispense,” liked that the material “flows well.” Another evaluator suggested “a different dispenser to use on small areas without the tip,” but noted that “the handling is so great!”

Regarding esthetics, a West Virginia evaluator liked the color best. A dentist from New Jersey liked Calibra Universal cement’s “esthetics” best and said, “Great product with excellent esthetics. However, I felt like it’s my go-to cement for anterior restorations primarily.”

Working and Curing Time

Manufacturer Description: Calibra Universal cement has a wide tack cure window of up to 10 seconds and an extended 45-second gel phase* that allows for easy removal of excess cement. Because it’s self-adhesive, there’s no need to prepare enamel or dentin with an etchant or bonding agent.

Evaluator Feedback: “The cement had great working time, allowing me to clean the excess cement, especially interproximally, in a minimal amount of time,” reported a dentist in practice for 11 years. A South Dakota evaluator, who rated working and curing time as very good, recommended that the manufacturer “shorten the total set time, perhaps [provide] 2 separate products with different set times.” He continued, “The tack set for the excess is a super
Calibra Universal cement to their colleagues, and 10 would definitely or probably purchase it. “There were no complaints of post-operative sensitivity,” shared a dentist who rated her overall satisfaction as very good and who would definitely recommend Calibra Universal cement to colleagues. Another dentist recommended “a capsule form…since there is less waste,” and a New York evaluator concluded, “Nice cement. Good handling. Easy cleanup.” A dentist who rated his overall satisfaction as excellent said, “This is the cement every dentist should have in their offices.”

Cleanup

Manufacturer Description: The extended gel phase allows time for thorough and effective removal of excess cement and avoids stressful, rushed cleanup.

Evaluator Feedback: Seven evaluators mentioned “easy cleanup” as the feature they liked best. Some comments were, “Easy to clean up, especially in the interproximals,” and “I would like to have a longer gel/removal phase for easier cleanup.” “I did like the curing time speed and easy cleanup when not over-cured on the tack cure. It seems to be a solid resin cement,” concluded one evaluator.

Overall Satisfaction

Twelve of the evaluators said they would definitely or probably recommend Calibra Universal cement to their colleagues, and 10 would definitely or probably purchase it. “There were no complaints of post-operative sensitivity,” shared a dentist who rated her overall satisfaction as very good and who would definitely recommend Calibra Universal cement to colleagues. Another dentist recommended “a capsule form…since there is less waste,” and a New York evaluator concluded, “Nice cement. Good handling. Easy cleanup.” A dentist who rated his overall satisfaction as excellent said, “This is the cement every dentist should have in their offices.”

*10-second tack cure window equals 5-second wave cure per surface. For excess cement cleanup, monowave output LED lights with a single peak output of 470nm are recommended. High power, dual or broad spectrum lights may cause premature hardening of excess cement. Check curing light effect on mixed cement in the laboratory prior to clinical use.

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